

## **GIFT CERTIFICATE ENVELOPE SYSTEM AND METHOD**

### **ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

A third party gift certificate system and method. The gift certificate package comprises: a gift certificate printed on an exterior side of a sealed envelope, wherein the gift certificate includes a redeemable amount; and a bank check enclosed within the sealed envelope, wherein the bank check includes a payable amount. The gift certificate package is issued by a third party for a redeemable amount that is generally greater than the payable amount of the bank check. When the gift certificate is presented to a participating merchant, the participating merchant removes the bank check, thereby obtaining immediate payment. The third party profits from the difference between the redeemable amount of the gift certificate and the payable amount of the bank check.